

- (b) adding amounts of pH-opposing forms of buffer salts to said powder in the ratio determined in step (a);

to produce an automatically pH-adjusting dry powdered culture medium having said desired final pH upon reconstitution.

ab

[Please substitute the following claim 2 for the pending claim 2:]

2. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising packaging said dry powdered culture medium.

[Please substitute the following claim 3 for the pending claim 3:]

3. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising sterilizing said dry powdered culture medium.

[Please substitute the following claim 4 for the pending claim 4:]

4. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said sterilization is accomplished by irradiating said dry powdered culture medium with gamma rays until said medium is sterile.

[Please substitute the following claim 5 for the pending claim 5:]

5. (Once Amended) The method of any one of claims 1-3, wherein said medium comprises at least one buffering salt selected from the group consisting of a monobasic buffering salt and a dibasic buffering salt.

[Please substitute the following claim 6 for the pending claim 6:]

6. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said monobasic buffering salt is a monobasic phosphate salt and said dibasic buffering salt is a dibasic phosphate salt.

C16 [Please substitute the following claim 7 for the pending claim 7:]

7. (Once Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said monobasic phosphate salt is a monobasic sodium phosphate salt and said dibasic phosphate salt is a dibasic sodium phosphate salt.

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a7 [Please substitute the following claim 9 for the pending claim 9:]

9. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said dry powder culture medium contains sodium bicarbonate but does not liberate CO<sub>2</sub> upon storage.

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a8 [Please substitute the following claim 15 for the pending claim 15:]

15. (Once Amended) A method of cultivating a cell comprising preparing an automatically pH-adjusting dry powdered culture medium prepared according to the method of any one of claims 1-3 and 9, reconstituting the medium with at least one solvent to form a culture medium solution, and contacting a cell with said solution under conditions favoring cultivation of the cell.

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Please substitute the following claim 18 for the pending claim 18:

a9

18. (Once Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said cell is a bacterial cell.

Please substitute the following claim 20 for the pending claim 20:

a10

20. (Once Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said cell is a eukaryotic cell.

Please substitute the following claim 32 for the pending claim 32:

a11

32. (Once Amended) The kit of claim 29, wherein said kit further comprises one or more additional containers containing at least one additional component selected from the group consisting of at least one growth factor, at least one culture medium supplement, at least one animal tissue extract, at least one animal organ extract, at least one animal gland extract, at least one enzyme, at least one protein, at least one vitamin, at least one cytokine, at least one lipid, at least one trace element, at least one extracellular matrix component, at least one buffer, at least one antibiotic, and at least one viral inhibitor.

Please substitute the following claim 36 for the pending claim 36:

a12

36. (Once Amended) The composition of claim 33, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of a bacterial cell, a yeast cell, a plant cell and an animal cell.

Please add the following new claims 40-43:

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40. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said solvent comprises at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of water, serum and an organic solvent.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said water is distilled or deionized water.

42. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said serum is bovine serum, human serum or fetal bovine serum.

43. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said organic solvent is dimethylsulfoxide, acetone or ethanol.

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***In the Drawings:***

Please substitute the attached Figure 18 for the pending Figure 18.

Please substitute the attached Figure 19A for the pending Figure 19A.

Please substitute the attached Figure 19B for the pending Figure 19B.